

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 122720

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MPOL, NATO,MILI, GW

SUBJECT: LTDP - FRG RESERVATION

REFS: (A) STATE 119858, DTG 110029Z MAY 78
-- (B) STATE 121036, DTG 120013Z MAY 78
-- (C) BONN 8867, DTG 121909Z MAY 78

1. YOUR REF C VERY USEFUL AND WE FIND DANNENBRING'S
ASSESSMENT INTRIGUING AND WELL WORTH PURSUING.
2. IN OUR VIEW IT WOULD IN GENERAL BE BEST TO LET THE
GERMANS WRESTLE THE SPECIFIC PRIORITIZATION SEQUENCE YOU
SUGGEST ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE OUR POINTS BELOW WILL MAKE A
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GOOD DEAL OF SUCH A PROCESS MUTUALLY SELF-EVIDENT.

3. THEREFORE YOU SHOULD SEEK EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO
PROVIDE DANNENBRING THE FOLLOWING POINTS EITHER
ORALLY OR AS A NON-PAPER:

-- FURTHER TO EARLIER DISCUSSIONS, OUR VIEWS OF THE FRG

FOOTNOTES IN 10 MAY DPC REPORT ON LTDP INDICATE THAT FRG COULD READILY FALL OFF ON SIX WITHOUT ADVERSELY AFFECTING THEIR INTEREST. OF THE REMAINING SIX, WE SHARE ONE WITH

FRG, AGREE THAT A SECOND REPRESENTS A CORRECT VIEW OF TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION, COULD ACCEPT A THIRD, AND WOULD NOT OPPOSE A FOURTH IF CONSENSUS FORMS AROUND FRG VIEW. DETAILS ARE GIVEN BELOW.

-- UNDER RESERVE MOBILIZATION, FRG PLACED PARA 21 OF DPC REPORT AD REFERENDUM. WE ASSUME FRG HAS ALREADY DECIDED TO REMOVE THIS FOOTNOTE SINCE THERE IS NO FRG RESERVATION ON THE RELATED ANNEX C.

-- IN ANNEX A, APPENDIX 2, WHICH DEALS WITH COMMITMENT CATEGORIZATION OF UNITS, FRG HAS FOOTNOTED RECOMMENDED GERMAN CHANGES WITH A "DEPENDENT UPON ONGOING NATIONAL STUDIES." SINCE UPGRADING UNITS TO EARMARKED STILL DOES NOT INDICATE ANY FIRM TIMING OF TRANSFER TO NATO COMMAND, THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE ADEQUATE LEEWAY HERE. SIMILARLY, SINCE COMMITMENT AS "OTHER FORCES" DOES NOT EVEN PROMISE ULTIMATE TRANSFER OF COMMAND, THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE ADEQUATE LEEWAY FOR ANY FRG CONCERNS HERE ALSO.

-- UNDER COMMUNICATIONS, ANNEX F, PARA 4, FRG SUGGESTS ALTERNATE LANGUAGE WHICH STATES THAT ADDITIONAL INFRA-CONFIDENTIAL

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STRUCTURE FUNDING WOULD BE REQUIRED IN AN AMOUNT WHICH CANNOT YET BE DETERMINED. THE LANGUAGE DOES NOT SEEM TO AFFECT PROGRAM CONTENT IN ANY WAY. WE ASSUME THAT IF FRG WISHES TO RETAIN THIS FOOTNOTE NOW, IT WOULD ACCEPT A MAJORITY VIEW AT THE MINISTERIAL. WE THINK THE LANGUAGE OF THE CURRENT TEXT REFLECTS THE TASK FORCE REPORT, BUT WE ALSO COULD ACCEPT MAJORITY FIEW HERE.

-- UNDER CONSUMER LOGISTICS, ANNEX J, IN PARA 9, FRG WISHES TO ADD "IN WAR" IN DESCRIBING EMERGENCY POWERS. WE SEE THIS CLARIFICATION AS ADDING LITTLE, BUT COULD ACCEPT MAJORITY VIEW IF FRG STILL WISHES TO BRING THIS TO MINISTERIAL ATTENTION.

-- UNDER CONSUMER LOGISTICS, ANNEX J, PARA 12F, FRG WISHES TO ESTABLISH THAT PROVISION OF WELL-LOCATED STORAGE CITES FOR AMMUNITION STOCKS BY ACCELERATION OF THE FORWARD STORAGE SITE PROGRAM SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER INVESTIGATION. SINCE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WILL LEAD TO EXAMINATION OF DETAILS, WE FEEL SPECIFIC CONCERN EXPRESSED BY FRG FOOTNOTE IS UNNECESSARY.

-- ON COMMUNICATIONS, ANNEX F, PARA 8, WE BELIEVE
ALTERNATE LANGUAGE OFFERED BY FRG (ON EMP PROTECTION AND
WAR HEADQUARTERS) IS A MORE ACCURATE PORTRAYAL OF TASK
FORCE REPORT AND CAN ACCEPT.

-- ON CONSUMER LOGISTICS, ANNEX J, PARA 12J, WE COULD
ACCEPT FRG FORMULATION CALLING FOR STUDY (RATHER THAN
AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE) OF EARMARKING STOCKS OF AMMUNITION
FOR USE BY NATO COMMANDERS ON A REGIONAL BASIS.

-- WE, OF COURSE, WELCOME FRG COSPONSORSHIP OF LANGUAGE
RE STRENGTHENING OF MAS (MILITARY AGENCY FOR STANDARDIZA-
TION) IN PARA 12(B)(IV) OF ANNEX H (RATIONALIZATION). WE
ASSUME THAT THIS POINT NEED NOT GO TO THE SUMMIT IF
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MINISTERS ARE NOT CONVINCED.

-- UNDER CONSUMER LOGISTICS, ANNEX J, PARA 7, FRG WISHES
TO ELIMINATE THE WORDS "ADDITIONAL" IN DESCRIBING AN
AFCENT COMMAND CONTROLLED AMMUNITION STOCKPILE. WHILE
CHANGING THE NATURE OF THE CONCEPT, THE FRG PROPOSAL MAY
HAVE MERIT IF IT DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THE 30-DAY REQUIREMENT
WOULD BE DIMINISHED.

-- WE HOPE THAT FRG CAN SEE ITS WAY CLEAR TO DROP ITS
RESERVATIONS ON SECURE COMMON LINK II (ANNEX D, PARA 12A)
AND ON MULTIFUNCTIONAL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS
(ANNEX E, PARA B), SINCE BOTH SYSTEMS REPRESENT A BROADLY
AGREED NATO COMMON SOLUTION.

-- IT SEEMS TO US THAT THE LARGE SHARE OF THE FOOTNOTES
IN QUESTION ARE MORE POLITICALLY SEMANTIC THAN FINANCIALLY
BINDING AND WE THEREFORE BELIEVE THAT THE POLITICAL VALUE
ACCRUING FROM A POSITIVE FRG REAPPRAISAL FAR OUTWEIGHS THE
IMPLIED RISK OF BUDGETARY IMPACTS.

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